



# Quinte SailAbility

Accessible

Active

Affordable

## Annual Report 2019/2020

Quinte SailAbility is a sailing school for persons with a physical or developmental disability, regardless of age or degree of disability. Founded in 2001 and serving the greater Quinte area, it has grown to be the second largest school of its type in Ontario. It operated out of the CFB Trenton Yacht Club for 19 years and in 2020 moved its program operations to the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club (BQYC), Belleville. Its goal is to be accessible, affordable and active. Through the use of technology, barriers are eliminated, providing the therapeutic benefits of sailing on one's own. Our core product is self-esteem and confidence.

### Overview of the Year

Quinte SailAbility went through a tremendous positive change during 2020. Due to a number of years of increasing problems with weeds and flooding issues operating out of the CFB Trenton Yacht Club, Quinte Sailability has moved its operation to be operate independently, co-located at the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club, Belleville. The move was a tremendous amount of planning and coordination for Quinte Sailability board and staff, including great support from the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club. Being co-located at the CFB Trenton Yacht Club for 19 years, Quint Sailability is very thankful for all the support received from the City of Quinte West and CFB 8 Wing Trenton during the time when operating from the location.

During the 2020 season, due to COVID-19 restrictions, many sailing programs and clubs across the province and country made the decision to cancel their programs, including racing regattas. Despite the pandemic, Quinte SailAbility not only completed a move to a new location, but organized and ran a very streamlined, safe program for 12 members.

There are full intentions of opening up our program to all of our 50+ members next season should COVID-19 restrictions be decreased, specifically distancing restrictions. It's been a great year to find our feet at the new location, and very pleased we could offer a tailored program.

## **Financial**

Funding went towards much needed fleet repairs and maintenance. Quinte Sailability thankful to have received financial support from a number of individuals, service clubs, and other organizations to support 2019/2020 activities.

## **Awards Banquet**

Cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions and gathering limitations.

## **Fundraising**

Due to COVID19 restrictions, traditional fundraising activity was postponed. In the past, fundraising included raffle to win a kayak, holiday baking and other in-person type of activity. The Board is exploring alternative fundraising initiatives to offset some costs. Fundraising is an important part of Quinte Sailability, both financially, as well as raising awareness of the great programs and what Quinte SailAbility is all about.

## **Operations**

A number of much needed repairs were completed the year to the majority of the fleet. In addition to repairs, full inventory of shed contents was completed, providing an opportunity to review what could be disregarded, streamlined and organized. The completed move to Bay of Quinte Yacht Club provided an opportunity to focus on getting much needed tasks completed for a successful next season.

## **Sailing Fleet**

- 4 Access 2.3
- 1 Liberty
- 4 Martin 16
- 2 Coach boats
- 1 Aluminum Boat with an Outboard Motor
- 1 Challenger Trimaran

## **Training**

Due COVID19 restrictions, especially physical distancing restrictions, there was a significant decrease of member who registered to participate, thus affecting sailing hours and staff duties. The majority of members require physical assistance in some shape or form. Active sailing/instruction was minimal but a program still ran.

During the time of staff hire, restrictions weren't in place, and there was assumption that the programs would run full-time as per other years.

Unfortunately, the restrictions got tighter as the days ran into the summer months affecting members being able to register and participate in core programs. Instruction included a total of 3 weeks on land and 1 week in the water. Programs offered included Recreational Sail 2 x per week and White Sail 2-3 times a week.

## **Staff**

Quinte Sailability hired 3 staff in 2020; Anna Willmott, Malcolm Campbell and Andrew Giacomuzzo. The staff did a terrific job, considering the restrictions and challenges; they were professional, pleasant, organized and hardworking. Staff worked a total of 420.5 hours. In addition to sailing program instruction, they assisted in fleet repairs, inventory projects and the move to Bay of Quinte Yacht Club.

## **Volunteers**

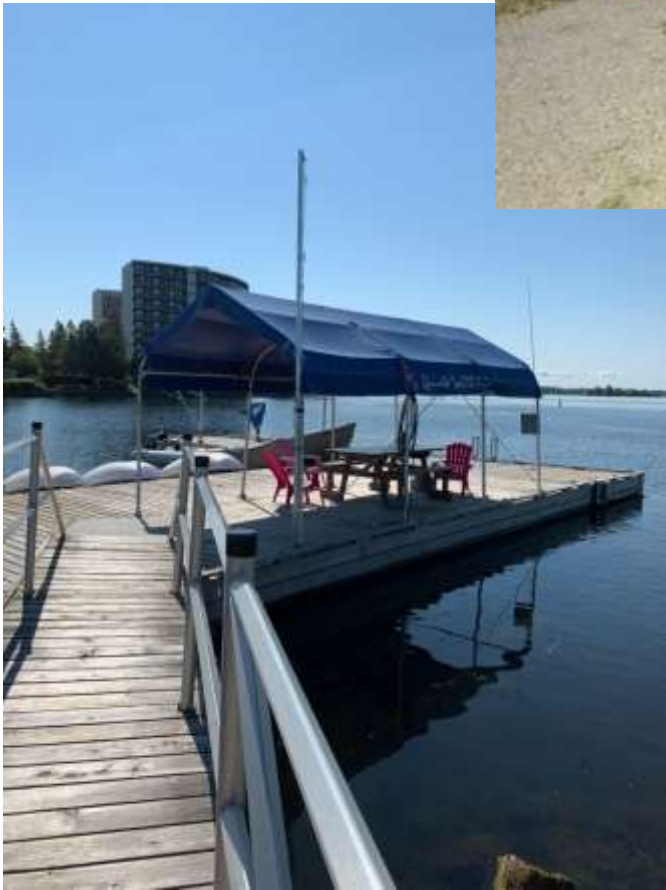
Due to COVID-19 restrictions, traditional recruitment of volunteers did not move forward. Activity, including the move, set up and tear down, was completed by Quinte Sailability board member volunteers and their families. The Bay of Quinte Yacht Club also provided some much appreciated assistance including towing of the dock which took 6 hours via waterway, in addition to other activity.

Volunteers are a key component of the success of Quinte SailAbility. For the 2021 season, will be looking to draw upon the expertise and labour of external sourced volunteers who can provide boat and facility improvements, maintenance, and dockside safety and assistance for the upcoming 2020/2021 season.

In addition to adults, teenage volunteers are a valuable part of the program. The teen volunteer program is a major contributor to keeping staff costs down. Volunteering with Quinte Sailability is also an excellent opportunity for high-school students to earn volunteer hours, which is mandatory for post-secondary school graduation.



Towing of the Docks



Set Up Photos